



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

stitute for the encyclopedias. The scope is narrower, in that it does not aim to include all the case law on every subject. The scope is broader, in that it is not so rigorously tied down to decided cases but unfolds the scientific principles of the law on which the cases are based and which should govern new combinations of facts as they arise. There could be no greater misnomer than to apply the term *corpus juris* to an encyclopedia which purports to include within its scope the bewildering and myriad precedents of case law on every subject. The term should rather be applied to an orderly statement of the fundamentals, bringing under one common principle those rules which historical accident may have kept apart, ignoring local and temporary aberrations and surveying the subject with a philosophic grasp of its past, present and future. We have not such a *corpus juris* at present. Perhaps the nearest approach to it is Modern American Law.

Too much praise can hardly be given to the typographical features. The volumes are bound in morocco with flexible covers, and are of convenient size. The paper is thin but opaque, and the type is a positive delight to the eye.

A. M. K.

COMMON SENSE IN LAW. By Paul Vinogradoff. Henry Holt and Co., 34 W. 33rd St., N. Y. 1914. pp. 256. \$50.

This is one of the Home University Library Series and is designed to afford the general reader the knowledge he would like to have on subjects of living and permanent interest. This particular volume may be termed an attempt to justify the ways of law to men. It is a work sadly needed and the author has done it well. "Although the details of legal rules are complicated and technical, the operations of the mind in the domain of law are based on common sense, and may be followed without difficulty by persons of ordinary intelligence and education". In these words the author makes clear at the outset that the general principles of the law are rational and simple, while the solution of particular concrete cases can be worked out only by the trained lawyer. In other branches of human knowledge this distinction is readily understood. The layman with the average knowledge of the principles of physics and mathematics does not feel himself competent to build a bridge across San Francisco Bay, or to design a dreadnaught. In law, strangely enough, laymen, both educated and uneducated, seem to hold the notion that all legal controversies reduce themselves in the last analysis to a fundamental difference between right and wrong, which could be solved intuitively by any fair minded person, if the lawyers, for their own benefit, had not interposed a lot of arbitrary and useless technicalities to defeat justice. A careful reading of this book will show the layman the inherent difficulties of the

problems lawyers are called upon to solve and the reasonableness of the solutions in general. To obtain a conception even of the general principles of the law will require from the layman some mental effort. There is no royal road in law any more than in mathematics or philosophy, but the author has made the way as easy as possible.

A lawyer's familiarity with the subject matter will make the book simple reading and yet well worth while, for the author has presented in an attractive manner the unifying theory of jurisprudence which is so lacking in the education of the American lawyer. This is not done by a formal and repellent abstract analysis, but by apt illustrations which flow so easily from the author's scholarly knowledge of comparative law. What is the aim of the law? Is it, as Ihering stated, to delimit interests, or is it as the author would have "to regulate the attribution and exercise of power over persons and things in social intercourse". One who reads the author's interesting chapter on this subject can hardly resist pursuing the controversy further. We need more books like this.

A. M. K.

TRIAL OF JOHN ALEXANDER DICKMAN. Edited by S. O. Rowan-Hamilton. Notable Trial Series. William Hodge & Co., 12 Bank St., Edinburgh, Scotland. 1914. pp. viii, 208, 5s net.

This is an interesting and valuable series which should be a part of every law library. The testimony in each case is given in narrative form, all exhibits are printed in full with facsimiles of the handwriting where necessary. Each volume contains an introduction and other helpful editorial matter. The value of such a series for future generations can hardly be overestimated. The importance, however, is not confined to the future. These tales of actual crime surpass in interest the ever popular detective stories of fiction. Few novels offer the fascinating study in criminal psychology presented by the fatal infatuation of Mary Blandy, or by the marvelous self-possession of Madeleine Smith, both trials included in the volumes already published.

For the lawyer, to the charm of the mystery there is added the keen intellectual enjoyment derived from the development of the case by the actual examination of the witnesses, by the arguments of skilled counsel, and by the summing up of able judges. For the student, such trials would seem well adapted for study in conjunction with Professor Wigmore's *Principles of Judicial Proof*. The construction of an argument from the testimony and exhibits of an interesting case is a practical legal study of no small advantage. The trial of Dickman, hanged on circumstantial evidence for a murder committed in a railway compartment, was given in full in 45 *American Law Review* 641, as an example of modern English trial methods. It certainly contains many points